

North Haven Public Schools

North Haven, Connecticut 06473

North Haven Public Schools
Board of Education Meeting
Minutes

Regular Meeting/Special Meeting/Organizational Meeting

Thursday, March 10, 2016, 6:30 p.m.

5 Linsley Street, North Haven, CT 06473

Attendance: Anita Anderson, Wesley O'Brien, Randi Petersen, Bryan Bogen, Jennifer Caldwell, Jennifer Cecarelli, Matthew Kerzner, Goldie Adele, Dorothy Logan, Tina Tanguay, Director of Finance, Operations, and Human Resources, Dana Coriveau, Director of Student Services, Melinda McKenna, Assistant Superintendent, and Robert D. Cronin, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools.

I. Consent Agenda

1. Minutes January 14, 2016
2. Resignation of Catherine Thomson, Music Teacher at Ridge Road Elementary School

Moved: to approve the Consent Agenda

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 9
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

II. Board of Education Student Representatives Reports

Information Item

Larissa Ostrinski reported:

- Adams Family Production was a huge hit
- Sr. Class is having a Badminton Tournament on March 17th at 6:30 p.m.
- March 17, there will be registration for voting at HS
- Boys basketball and hockey made the post season tournament
- Two track athletes through to State Tournament and into New England Tournament. They were Shane O'Connor and Omar Gebrill
- SAT's were administered on March 2nd to Juniors. Only 5 students missed test and will be able to take in April
- CAPT is being administered on March 17th
- March 18 HS vs MS basketball game
- March 10 SCASA SCASA Student Recognition Luncheon
- March 28 SCC Scholar Leader Recognition Dinner
- April 1st Teacher/Student Talent Show

Celese Battapaglia

- HS cheerleaders placed second at States and will be advancing Team of the Year Competition
- Pi day is Monday March 14, 2016 and there will be a pie baking contest
- Band/chorus are preparing to go to Washington DC on April 14, 2016
- Band/Chorus concert on March 23, 2016
- North Haven Rotary Club had a 4- way Speech Contest

III. Report of the Board of Education Chairperson or Designee

Information Item

Mrs. Anderson reported that budget was submitted and the Board of Education has been invited back to the Board of Finance Meeting on Wednesday, March 16, 2016 to answer questions they may have regarding the budget that was submitted. Mrs. Anderson asked for Board Members to also attend this meeting if possible.

- IV. Unfinished Business
V. New Business

VI. Reports of Standing Committees

1. ACES

Information Item

Mrs. Logan reported that Diana Wexel from the State was in attendance talking about testing and the state budget. Mrs. Logan shared that the Excess Costs reimbursement for special education this year will be less. Mrs. Logan reported that ACES passed their budget with a 3-31/2 percent increase. The ACES Education Foundation Gala is on March 8, 2016.

2. Athletics

Information Item

Champions – Girls Ice Hockey crowned SCC Division II Girls Ice Hockey Champs

a. All State – All Area awards

- Indoor Track: State Open and Class L Champion – Shane O'Connor (Shot Put) – Finished 11th in the All New England Championships
- Indoor Track: Class L State Champion and State Open Qualifier – Omar Gebril (600M) – Finished 9th in All New England Championships
 - Wounded Warrior pledge – More than 100 Personal Record's on both teams.
- 2016 CIAC Scholar Athletes: #1 Rachel Bounasora (Swim) and #7 Ryan Brennan (Cross Country, Indoor Track, Outdoor Track)

b. Coaching Awards –

- Robert DeMayo awarded the 2015 Dave Solomon Memorial Sportsman of the Year
 - <http://www.nhregister.com/sports/20151225/north-haven-baseball-coach-bob-demayo-registers-2015-dave-solomon-memorial-sportsman-of-the-year>
- Melissa Thomas (Forte) awarded the 2016 Cheerleading Assistant Coach of the Year

c. Donations –

- Ms. Suzy Page – \$500 donation for equipment for Middle School baseball and softball teams
 - Ms. Theresa Halloran (Frank Halloran Memorial Donation – July 2015) – totaled \$3150 in donations from various donors. Per the request of the family, the donation will go to the football team. Mr. Petronio and Coach Sagnella are discussing how to best use the donation.
- Field Improvements / recommendations – Intention to close DeMayo Field at conclusion of high school season (mid-June)
 - STEAP Grant – Board of Selectman and First Selectmen Mike Freda formally approved plan and now awaiting the State DEEP and Office of Attorney General's Approval (1-2 month timeframe) which includes the design of the plan, not necessarily the location of the structure.
 - Concession Stand / Meeting House / New Bathroom facility – future meetings will be scheduled. It has been proposed to build the facility at the South End of the field to allow for easy access to/from new field locations and existing Vanacore field.
 - Vanacore Field will need to be re-evaluated in the spring regarding additional work needed due to post season games.
 - *Field Updates (As reported in December 2015)*
 - Baseball Fields – All 90' diamonds have been edged and leveled with (~80yds) clay.
 - Softball Fields – All diamonds have been edged and clay will be added in spring. In addition, there is an agent to help keep clay in a softer state.
 - Soccer Field was drilled seeded, fertilized
 - Brush cleared / cut along bridge, Trees cut on JV softball field
 - Postseason Updates –
 - Boys Basketball (10-10) and new coach Justin Falcon qualified for SCC / CIAC for first time since 2012.
 - Boys Ice Hockey – Qualified for SCC / CIAC Postseason
 - Girls Ice Hockey – Qualified for SCC Division II / State Tournament
 - Team Fencing State Tournament to be held at North Haven (3/12/16)
 - Cheerleading and All New England Tournament
 - Top 3 teams in each division are invited to All New England Regionals (Distributed by CIAC) in Lawrence Ma.
 - Teams 4-6 could be "bumped up the line" should one of the top 3 teams decide to not participate

- Departure on Friday evening for mandatory Sat AM Practices / check-ins. Competition is Saturday afternoon.
- Current Issue: According to CIAC Policy, students (residents of North Haven) will have the opportunity to compete on NHHS / NHMS sanctioned athletic teams if the student attends a school that has NO ATHLETIC program (ex. Sound School in New Haven, Engineering and Science University Magnet School in New Haven (6-8), etc).

3. Curriculum, Instruction, and Planning

Information Item

Dr. O'Brien Curriculum, Instruction and planning met Monday, March 7, 2017 and reported:

Jill Metz presented/proposed for adoption the Grade 7 Geography text *My World Geography* (Pearson, 2013). The committee unanimously approved the adoptions. Some of the text's highlights included:

- A student-friendly format in which each section begins with a personal narrative from age appropriate natives of the area of study.
- Colorful, inviting pages with easy-to-assimilate text, which avoids being overly dense.
- Inclusive areas for study (as opposed to other texts reviewed that separated areas into two volumes).
- New Textbook Proposal- Grade 7 Geography- My World Geography (Pearson-2013)- Jill Metz (K-12 Social Studies Coordinator) will join us for this discussion
- Field Trip Request- Clintonville School (Grade 5)- Sturbridge Village

The committee approved a Grade 5 field trip request to Sturbridge Village from Clintonville School.

- Monthly update on testing (SBAC, SAT, CMT/CAPT Science)

Melinda presented an update on testing as follows:

- Students completed SAT testing on March 2, 2016. Melinda reported that the high school did an "amazing" job administering the test and had 98% participation.
 - Although students had the option of not counting their scores, their participation was nonetheless counted in the participation figures.
 - Oddly, while the discounted scores do not attach to the student record, they nonetheless are averaged into the district tally.
- The following tests are scheduled:
 - March 14, Grade 5 CMT science
 - Week of March 14, middle school Grade 8 CMT science
 - March 17, Grade 10 CAPT science

Melinda reported the elimination of ELA performance task from SBAC. The SBAC (sans ELA) will start after April break. Melinda informed/reminded the committee that surveys regarding Grade 5 programs are being distributed to Grade 5 teachers. Parents of 4th grade students will be asked to complete the surveys at parent-teacher conferences. Melinda reported that she attended the Participation Forum at the Connecticut State Department of Education. A splendid time was had by all.

- a. Approval of NHHS Cheerleading Team to go on a field trip
For the All New England Cheerleading Competition in
Laurence Massachusetts on March 18-20, 2016

Moved: to approve the NHHS Cheerleading Team field trip for the All New England
Cheerleading Competition in Laurence Massachusetts on March 18-20, 2016

Approved

MOVED: Randi Petersen
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner
AYE: 9
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

- b. Approval of Clintonville School (Grade 5) field trip
to Sturbridge Village on May 31, 2016

Moved: To approve Clintonville School (Grade 5) field trip to Sturbridge Village on May 31, 2016

MOVED: Randi Petersen
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner
AYE: 9
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

4. Finance and Operations

Information Item

Bryan Bogen welcomed Tina Tanguay, Director of Finance, Operations and Human Resources, and reported:

- Keeping close watch on the benefits account, specifically prescriptions, as well as Special Education accounts. Running a tight budget with concerns with the Excess Costs.
- The budget is currently on a freeze only allowing emergent items to go through.
- There was some savings in the utilities account due to the mild winter, etc.

5. Middle School Building Committee

Information Item

Goldie Adele welcomed Gary Johns and Joe Banks from the Building Committee to present the process regarding the next phase which is Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment. These items have to be approved by the Board of Education, then go to the State for their approval. Once the State approves this, the committee can put those items out to bid.

- a. Presentation from Building Committee member regarding Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment
- b. Approval of the Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment Package

Information Item

Moved: to approve the Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment Package

Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien
SECOND: Goldie Adele
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 1

Ms. Caldwell abstained because she was not able to review the package in advance.

6. North Haven Education Foundation

Information Item

Mr. Kerzner reported that the Foundation met yesterday and they are gearing up for the annual Spelling Bee.

7. Policy

Mrs. Caldwell reported that the committee is working on the 6000 Series.

8. PTA Council

Information Item

Mrs. Cecarelli reported:

The North Haven PTA Council met on February 22, 2016 in the NHHS Library conference room. Representatives from the following groups were present and provided reports:

- NHHS Student Council
- NHMS PTSA
- Montowese PTA
- Ridge Road PTA
- Board of Education Rep

1) NHHS Student Council shared an overview of current events at the NHHS such as: The Addams Family March 3, 4, and 5th; a Pi Day celebration on March 14th that will include a Pi memorization contest and a pie baking contest; a talent show on April 8th, and a water bottle fundraiser. The Student Council is also collaborating on a directory/program of extracurricular activities that are offered at the high school.

2) NHMS PTSA shared that they are currently working on several activities. There will be an internet safety workshop for parents that will be held at NHHS on 3/15 from 6:30-8 pm, and is for parents only. They will be electing a new executive board at their April meeting. The school play, My Fair Lady will run from April 7-9. The 8th grade Field Day committee is currently meeting to plan that event for the first half day in June. The PTSA is also sponsoring a trip to Fenway Park on June 25th.

3) Ridge Road shared several events, including a someone special dance, as well as a someone special game day. Shred Day will be held on April 2nd. They also were planning their annual parent teacher basketball game, and had their PTA meeting on 3/8.

The PTA Council is currently working on a fundraising basketball game between the middle school and high school faculty that will be held on Friday, March 18th. The Middle School Mayhem vs the Across Court Disciplines begins at 7 pm and tickets are \$5 each. There will be raffles and a free throw contest.

The Council is also working on how to best support the BOE with budget awareness, community engagement, and increasing voter turnout.

The next PTA Council meeting will be on March 21st at 7:00 in the NHHS Library Conference room. All are invited to attend.

VII. Staff Communications

A. Superintendent's Report

Information Item

Dr. Cronin reported on the Participation in State Testing as well as comparisons between Farmington Public Schools and North Haven Public Schools. The comparison data between Farmington and North Haven, showed great discrepancies between the two.

1. State of the District

Information Item

Dr. Cronin presented to the Board of Education his State of the District. Highlighted items were:

- Policy updates and Protocols
- Superintendent's Theory of Action
- Strategic Plan
- Program Development Plan
- District Improvement Plan
- New Administrator Hiring and Orientation Process
- Professional Development
- Supervision, Evaluation and Accountability

Mrs. McKenna presented all progress with regards to teaching and learning. Highlighted items were:

- Accomplishments have been coherence, data structures, and teacher evaluations
- Focus areas will be:
 - Curriculum
 - Training
 - Resources/Materials
 - Field Trips
 - Transitions
 - District Data Teams

Mrs. Corriveau spoke regarding Special Education highlighting many accomplishment made:

- NAEYC Accreditation at Green Acres Preschool
- Implementation of 504 Direct (electronic 504 database)
- No Title IX noncompliance with SDE
- Intensive services for students with severe intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Therapeutic services
- North Haven transition Partnership
- Medicaid billing
- Zero due process hearings or administrative complaints to the SDE
- Decreased out of district placements

- Full time social workers and psychologists in every building
- PBIS fully implemented in every building
- SRBI are more streamlined

Focus areas in the future will be:

- Student Services Improvement Plan
- Medicaid billing – increasing parental knowledge/awareness
- Executive function
- Continue working with in-district staff and further reduce out of district placements
- Continue implementation of ILS and TLS Services
- Continue implementation of SRBI/PBIS
- Focus on outcomes

Dr. Cronin handed out the proposed 2016-2017 District Calendar and reviewed it with the Board. He stated that he is following the suggested statewide calendar.

2. Approval of the 2016-2017 District Calendar

Moved: to approve the 2016-2017 District Calendar

Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Caldwell
 SECOND: Jennifer Cecarelli
 AYE: 9
 NAY: 0
 ABSTAIN: 0

- B. Assistant Superintendent's Report
- C. Director of Finance and Operations

Information Item

- 1. Director of Finance and Operation's Report
- 2. Approval of the 2015-2016 Monthly Financial Report

Information Item

Moved: To approve the 2015-2016 Monthly Financial Report

Approved

MOVED: Goldie Adele
 SECOND: Matthew Kerzner
 AYE: 9
 NAY: 0
 ABSTAIN: 0

VIII. Public Comment

- Wade Arenberg spoke to the technology needs for the district.
- Carol Ladore spoke regarding SBAC participation
- Nancy Barrett spoke for Team 4 Education stating that they support the budget presented

IX. Future Agenda Items

Discussion Item

X. Executive Session –for matters of personnel

Moved: to move into executive session for matters of personnel

Approved

MOVED: Dorothy Logan
 SECOND: Jennifer Cecarelli
 AYE: 9
 NAY: 0
 ABSTAIN: 0

XI. Adjournment

Moved: to adjourn at 9:25 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Randi Peterson
SECOND: Goldie Adele
AYE: 9
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Anderson

Anita Anderson,
Chairman